

- *Short greeting, Introduction of yourself, who are you, what do you study*  
*In case a nice “getting-to-know-each-other” discussion starts, you should be aware not to take about topics which will come up during the interview cause it influences the results*
- *Explanation about the structure and an expected! and honest! information about the length of the interview, note that there will be different types of questions(open & closed)*
- *Finishing with the option to have a further conversation afterwards*

*An idea about the introduction. The important parts are highlighted.*

Hello,

This is x and I am x. We study x at the Technical University in Darmstadt. We are part of the student's project iGEM, which is an international competition, arranged by the MIT, which has its focus on genetic engineering. In the context of this competition, we have to go through a “human practice”-part.

We decided to make the questioning in a type of an interview with people from the public-life, in detail with politicians as you. The survey has not just closed questions with given answers, but also some open ones, where you get to option to tell us your view at length.

We have a part with overview questions about genetic engineering, after that we introduce our project to you and then we will finish with a few questions about your political estimation. If there are any questions, you can ask them straight away, but we will give short answers, to make sure, that all respondents receive the questions under the same conditions.

We record this questioning to make sure, we get all the information we need. The results will be evaluated scientifically but we would like to take some parts as a quote. If we publish a citation you will get the text to check it. After the questioning the standard conditions of an interview are going to be irrelevant. Therefore we can be sure that it's easier to have a nice conversation if you want to.

Name of the interviewed person: \_\_\_\_\_

Party: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Overall part about genetic engineering**

Would you say that you are well informed about the topic of genetic engineering?

*Show all possible answers (except of not applicable)*

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

Name in one word the emotion, that you have at first in your mind when you hear the term "genetic engineering"

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Would you say, that genetic engineering is established in the German economy?

*Even though we already did it, read out all possible answers every single time.*

- Strongly disagree

- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

Some say, the research in Germany is innovative. Which rule has the in Germany operated research in genetic engineering in comparison to the international research?

- Not important at all
- Not important
- Not sure – I don't know
- Important
- Extremely important
- Not applicable

### **Specific differences green/red/white**

Would you say, there are different types of genetic engineering?  
*Please answer free.*

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If you think of chances for the humanity in terms of genetic engineering, what would come up in your mind?  
*(Possibly say nicely that they don't have to answer)*

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If you think of risks for the humanity in terms of genetic engineering, was would come up to your mind?  
*(Possibly say nicely that they don't have to answer)*

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Do you know any of the following terms?

*Don't expect a "yes", if they answer with yes, ask them which one*

- Green genetic engineering
- White genetic engineering
- Red genetic engineering

*Even if all answers are known or just parts of it, all examples should be read out*

After the question, introduction about the types of genetic engineering

Example green:

Green biogenetics deals with plants. In plant-breeding, for example in the potato resistances against bacteria and fungi got lost within decades. By now there is the possibility to get the resistance genes of the wild type and place them through breeding into the cultured plants. This results in a lower use of pesticides.

Example white:

White biogenetics deals with the industrial usage of genetic engineering. As a result there are projects, where plastic is produced from bacteria and not from mineral oil, which saves resources.

Example red:

Red biogenetics deals with the advantages in pharmacy and medicine. As an example: Some years ago, pigs and horses were used for the production of insulin for humans, who sickened on diabetes. Today E.coli bacteria are used to produce the insulin, which is even more compatible for humans, because it is identical to the human-produced insulin.

Do you know one or more further examples? Did you relate them to genetic engineering?

*(Yes all? Just a few = which ones? Other thoughts)*

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For the examples you know, which advantages or risks are correlated?

*(If the answer is in one sentence, ask deeper, and ask them for further explanation)*

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## **Introduction of our project**

Now we would like to introduce our project to you.

Our aim is the safety on biotechnology. In our trial we use E.coli bacteria. We insert free DNA-stings, known as plasmids into these bacteria. These plasmids change the bacteria, so they need an unnatural amino acid *(maybe further explanation)* in their living-culture to survive. If the bacterium leaves this culture, it expresses a substance called colicine. Colicin is a protein, which can clear the whole DNA of the bacterium. The result is, that it can't spread in other cultures. Even in terms of theft, it will be hard or even impossible to keep these bacteria alive. In addition a fluorescent protein starts to express at first, so we can see, if the bacteria got out of their safety zone due to for example grubby handling. Therefore we always know, if everybody works responsible with the bacteria.

What are your thoughts about this project?

*(If the answer is in one sentence, ask deeper, and ask them for further explanation)*

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Would you say that this concept gives you the feeling of safety?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

Do you think this project is an additional benefit for the society?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

Do you think this project is an additional benefit for the economy?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

### **Questions about the influence on the public**

*In certain circumstances you can indicate, that this is the last topic.*

What do you think is the view of the electors of your party in terms of genetic engineering?

*(If the answer is in one sentence, ask deeper, and ask them for further explanation)*

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Do you think that presentations or information about scientific projects such as ours can change the position of the electors of your party in a more positive direction in terms of genetic engineering?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

Do you think, your party would sponsors projects, just as ours?  
*It doesn't have to be financial, even political support about the topic is a way of facilitation.*

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Not sure
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

Is there anything, we didn't ask, but you would like to tell us your opinion? (Doesn't have to be part of the last topic)

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**A big thank you! – Offer of a nice conversation**